

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/791,721

Examiner

Christopher Verdier

Applicant(s)

CLARK ET AL.

Art Unit

3745

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Preliminary Amendment dated 3-4-04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8 and 11-14.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 3-4-04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Thomas Pardini, Attorney of Record, on September 16, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

#### In the Specification:

On page 1, second to last line, "vanable" (both occurrences) has been changed to -- variable --.

On page 7, line 23, "43" has been changed to -- 42 --.

#### In the Abstract:

In the abstract, line 6, "actuation means" has been changed to -- an actuation arrangement --.

In the abstract, line 7, "means" has been changed to -- arrangement --.

#### In the Claims:

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In claim 2, line 1, "the" has been deleted.

In claim 5, line 1, -- the -- has been inserted after "wherein".

In claim 5, line 3, "the" has been deleted.

The above changes to the specification have been made to correct informalities. The above changes to the abstract have been made to remove the legal term "means" from the abstract. The above changes to the claims have been made to correct informalities.

### ***Reasons for Allowance***

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The instant application is directed towards an unobvious improvement over the invention patented in U.S. Patent 5,636,968 to Audet. Audet discloses vane actuating levers 8 for adjusting the angle of incidence of variable angle stator vanes 1 in a gas turbine engine, each lever having a first end near 7 for attachment to a respective stator vane and a second end near 9 for attachment to an actuation means/vane actuator ring 10. The improvement of claim 1 comprises each lever having an interlocking connection means for pivotally connecting the lever with respect to its respective vane in such a way that the lever is capable of being attachably/detachably mounted with respect to the vane at a first angular position and retained in interlocking engagement for pivotal movement with respect to the vane at a second angular position or range of positions. The improvement of claim 8 comprises the lever having at least one integral hinge pin for pivotally connecting the lever with respect to its respective vane in such a way that the lever is capable of being attachably/detachably mounted with respect to the

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vane at a first angular position and retained in interlocking engagement for pivotal movement with respect to the vane at a second angular position or range of positions. None of the prior art of record discloses or suggests the improvements.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Verdier whose telephone number is (571) 272-4824. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward K. Look can be reached on (571) 272-4820. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

C.V.  
September 16, 2005

  
Christopher Verdier  
Primary Examiner  
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